FROM THE PRINCIPAL
Thank you to those who attended the Year 9 Whānau Welcome on Tuesday 12 February. It was great to see so many new faces at the College and we hope the evening was a valuable opportunity for staff, new students and whānau to get to know one another.

Well done to our Relay for Life team. This group have been raising money for some time and they should be very proud of their efforts.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS
As some of you may be aware, 2019 marks an election year for the Board of Trustees. I hope you will take part by either being nominated or nominating someone you think would make a great Trustee. More information regarding the election can be found in this newsletter.

TOMORROW’S SCHOOL REVIEW
A very significant review of the New Zealand education system is currently underway. For more information regarding this review, please read the article in this newsletter, including links to the taskforce’s report and ways you can share your feedback.

STAFF NEWS
Congratulations to our Director of Sports, Mikaela Greig, and her cricket team, the Central Hinds, who recently won the Women’s Domestic One-Day Final. Well done also to Mr Tuck and Mrs Pearson who competed in the Hockey Masters last week.

Dr Desai (Maths) will be finishing with us at the end of March. We wish him well in his new position. In Term Three we will welcome Mr Tamil who is joining us from Auckland.

Our Business Manager, Mrs Shand, has also announced her retirement and will finish at the end of Term One. We wish her well in her retirement and thank her for over 20 years of service to the College.

AWATAPU COLLEGE EDUCATIONAL TRUST
At a recent meeting the Educational Trust agreed to donate $500 towards Seeking Success. This donation is much appreciated by the students who run this group. More information about the Trust can be found on the College website.

PTA NEWS
Thank you to the PTA who have agreed to contribute $1000 towards our Goldie Draws and $1500 to Seeking Success. These generous donations are welcomed by the College and we thank the PTA for their ongoing support.

NCEA RESULTS - MERIT/EXCELLENCE ENDORSEMENTS
There were several students who achieved a Merit or Excellence endorsed certificate last year. This means they achieved at least 50 credits at Merit and/or Excellence. The number receiving certificates has increased over the last few years which is very encouraging. These students will be awarded their badges at an upcoming school assembly.

NCEA RESULTS - PROVISIONAL RESULTS 2018
Below are the provisional results for 2018. It is worth noting that NZQA has changed the way results are reported and now include all students at each year level. For Awatapu College this now means that students in our Special Needs Unit and those who are refugees, are now included in the statistics. For our College this represents a large number of students which I believe distorts the real picture of achievement at Awatapu College.

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Gary Yeatman
Principal

www.awatapu.school.nz  Phone +64 6 356 4817
WHAT’S BEEN HAPPENING . . .

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to former students, Owen Keenan and Phoenix Reid, who were awarded Central Energy Trust Bursaries at the awards ceremony on 26 February. Receiving a Central Energy Trust Bursary is an incredible achievement and only comes as a result of a significant amount of work, both at school and in the community. Well done, Phoenix and Owen!

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Individual photographs of our students were taken by Photolife Studios, in Weeks 1 and 3. These are then assembled into form class photos. Order information should be available before the end of term. You will be able to purchase individual and/or class photo packages.

RELAY FOR LIFE

Congratulations to everyone who took part in the Relay for Life over the weekend 9-10 March. A big thank you to Ms Sutton and the team for their fundraising efforts. The Awatapu College team raised $8400 for the event and won the “Most Raised Community Group and Schools” award!

FESTIVAL OF CULTURES

This week we held our annual Festival of Cultures to celebrate the cultural diversity in our school. The entire week was embraced by both students and teachers - it has truly been a colourful, exciting week! Thank you for everyone’s support and contribution to the festivities. The highlights of the week were the Japanese Open Room on Monday, the Amazing Race on Tuesday, the Market Day on Wednesday, the Cultural Soiree on Thursday, and the International Soccer Match and International Dress Day on Friday.

Our Festival of Cultures week coincides with the Palmerston North Festival of Cultures opening on Saturday 16 March. This is a week of celebration involving music, food, workshops and craft. The week culminates with the Cultural Fair on Saturday 23 March in the Square. We encourage you all to head down and join in the fun!

FROM THE ARTS DEPARTMENT

Well done to the Year 9 and 10 students who took part in the Junior Idol in Week 6. It was great to see so many enthusiastic and talented students perform!

On Thursday 14 March, the winners from the Junior Idol joined other musical, dance and cultural performers and showcased their talents at the Cultural Soiree. This was the first Soiree of the year and coincided with our Festival of Cultures Week.

If you missed this Soiree, we encourage you to come and see our talented students perform in this year’s Production - Sequinned Suits and Platform Boots. Performances run from 2nd-4th May 2019 in the College Auditorium. Tickets are $10 from the school office (limited door sales available). We look forward to seeing you there!
FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT . . .

SWIMMING SPORTS

Swimming Sports were held on Thursday 14 February at the Lido. We had a great turn out and it was great to see such fierce competition between the houses, particularly during the tabloid events in the afternoon. Congratulations to all of our winners and to Rutherford house for retaining the Swimming Sports title for the 4th year in a row! Full results for the day were:

House Results
1st Rutherford
2nd Ngata
3rd Sheppard
4th Hillary

Junior Boy
1st Sam Brown
2nd Dylan Williams
3rd Seth Warr

Junior Girl
1st April Holman
2nd Jessica Greenwood
3rd Sophie Dobson

Intermediate Boy
1st Ollie Beech
2nd Nathaniel Rickard
3rd Andrew Zentveld

Intermediate Girl
1st Tia Davis
2nd Kyann Williams
3rd Elouise Hook

Senior Boy
1st James Rodie
2nd Noah Macdermid
3rd Bobby Pritchard

Senior Girl
1st Ashley Taylor
2nd Kaitlyn Hook
3rd Ashleigh Squires

Diving
Boys: Sam Brown
Girls: Ashleigh Infield

Bomb
Boys: Bobby Pritchard
Girls: O’Meara-Jean Daniela

ATHLETIC SPORTS

Thank you to all those who attended Athletics Day on Thursday 7 March. We had a fantastic day and it was great to see so many students getting involved! Well done to Sheppard house for taking out the 2019 Athletic Sports title. Full results of the day were:

House Results
1st Sheppard
2nd Rutherford
3rd Hillory
4th Ngata

Junior Boy
1st Demetrius Gagau
2nd Eli Gfkns-Cairncross
3rd= Rua-Matipou Te Awe

Junior Girl
1st Jessica Greenwood
2nd Charlotte Orme
3rd= Amelia McKay

Intermediate Boy
1st Emerson Smith
2nd Donte Hirini
3rd Hamish Bird

Intermediate Girl
1st Ashleigh Infield
2nd Molly Elliott
3rd= Jessica Williams

Senior Boy
1st James Rodie
2nd Malachy Kingi-McCavana
3rd Walter Johnson

Senior Girl
1st= Kaitlyn Hook
2nd= Christina Stuart
3rd Bianca Trewick

Records
Amelia McKay - Junior Girls’ High Jump
Amelia McKay - Junior Girls’ Long Jump
James Rodie - Senior Boys’ Shot Put

WINTER SPORT SIGN-UPS

Sign-up sheets for winter sports are in the gym foyer! If you have any queries regarding winter sports, please see Miss Greig, Director of Sports.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Noah Macdermid who competed at the National Athletics Championships in Christchurch recently. Noah competing in the U20 1500m, placing 6th overall.
EMERGENCIES

Awatapu College has a plan to handle emergency situations, which may arise at school. The purpose of this notice is to inform parents of our procedures for evacuation or retention of their students in times of emergency. Please read this carefully.

The areas of risk that our plan covers are:
- Earthquakes
- Strong winds/cyclone
- Fires
- Armed offenders and dangerous persons
- Chemical spillage and spray drift
- Floods
- Traffic accidents in the vicinity of the College
- Slips
- Volcanic fallout

In the case of an emergency, which requires that the school be evacuated, students will be released into the custody of their parents/caregivers, if at all possible. Every endeavour will be made to communicate with parents. Please be aware that this may be via the radio, Facebook, website or text. The nature of the emergency will determine the most appropriate entry for collection of students.

If students are unable to leave the College safely, the College has plans to feed students for up to 18 hours, and would then ask that the local Civil Defence or district organisations to assist or assume responsibility for feeding and accommodating any student remaining at the College.

Throughout the year, practices will be held to familiarise students and staff members with evacuation procedures.

NZQA FEES

Students entered into internal or external NCEA standards must pay NZQA fees every year to have their results recorded on their Record of Achievement and to receive certificates. There are separate fee structures for domestic students and international students. The NZQA fee structure remains largely unchanged to previous years, however, a couple of years ago there was a change for students who are considering doing New Zealand scholarship exams and are not eligible for financial assistance. Each scholarship exam now incurs a $30 fee in addition to the $76.70 NCEA assessment fee.

Financial assistance is available for domestic students to help with the payment of entry fees. Financial assistance is not available to international fee-paying students. Families who meet the financial assistance criteria based on income, benefit or multiple-candidate applications will have the fee reduced. This fee will cover all NCEA and New Zealand scholarship exams. Financial Assistance information is available on the NZQA website. A link to the Financial Assistance Application Form is also available on that webpage.

REMINDER

A small number of students are choosing to ignore school rules and show basic courtesy in classes. It is our expectation that students will display basic manners at all times and not disrupt the learning of others. If your child consistently does this, we will be in contact with you. Likewise, we expect your child to be at school on time and only be away for genuine reasons.

With the increasing roll we are noticing more traffic congestion at the Botanical Road gates. The area around this is clearly marked with no parking / yellow lines – do not park here. This is causing issues with the school buses trying to enter and exit the College grounds and creating a health and safety hazard for students. When exiting or entering the College grounds, please always give way to the buses.

www.awatapu.school.nz
FROM THE LIBRARY
For opening hours, latest new books/magazines, and new titles in our Ebook and audio book collections, check out the library website: library.awatanu.school.nz The library is full of great resources for helping students with their assignments. Read archived newspapers and magazines, or use our computer suite for online research. Remember if you need help accessing anything online, or if there is a title, author or series of books that you would like to see in the library, please see our librarian, Mrs Knap. Suggestions are always welcome!

FROM THE INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT
Our international programme is an important part of the culture at the College. We currently have 48 international students, including 12 students who have just arrived from Thailand on a 10-week programme.

A special WELCOME is extended to our new student from Germany who is here until July and the Thai group with us until May (pictured below).

GERMANY
Maximilian Hopp

THAILAND
Chichaya Tangjitvittaya
Chirachaya Srinapawong
Phanutach Phirathaworndet
Jiratchakan Teerachia
Natnicha Asdaroon
Pakin Leeannant

Panpitikorn Thongthai
Paramee Horanop
Janisa Muljadi
Rinrada Asdaron
Ratchawut Sakulrujar
Sorawit Wantanakorn

We also wish the following students all the best in their future undertakings as they travel back to Japan.

Haruna Kitada
Kou Oida
Takato Okuhara
Yuzu Yamamoto

WORDSWORTH
While working with Junior classes, I notice that some of our students lack comprehension strategies. One simple habit of prediction will help students to become more active readers. When facing a piece of text, stop for a moment and reflect on four or five points that might be contained in the text. Help your student to make such a prediction. Good readers get very adept at predicting fairly accurately the content of text, particularly when they have encountered that type of text before. For example, when faced with a recipe, we can predict that it will tell us the name of the dish, ingredients and quantities, how to prepare and cook, and how many it will feed.

As exposure to different styles of writing in text books become more familiar, students become more proficient at accurate prediction. Good readers express surprise when their prediction is off the mark. If they make assumptions on the basis of a headline and then realise that the prediction was off target, the brain reorganises to amend predictions. For example, this headline challenges the reader: “Milk Drinkers Are Turning To Powder” Or “Hershey Bars Protest”. Similarly, when we read a novel and the story takes unexpected twists, the reader will either become annoyed or be more engrossed because of the unexpected direction taken by the author.

Suppose your student has some reading to do. Try to think of three or four things that might be in the text. Then, after reading, check off which ones were there and then discuss anything that was there but not predicted. If this becomes a habit, reading comprehension will improve. The brain already has a file activated to receive the information. Don’t forget to visit the library. It is free and provides fabulous reading of both fiction and non-fiction books. Try the large print section for more reluctant readers. Bigger text makes the reading task easier. Access digital books on your device. The more we read, the wider our vocabulary becomes and the more we learn.

ENGAGEMENT REPORTS
By now, parents/caregivers should have received the first Engagement Report which was published to the Portal on Tuesday 5 March. Parents/caregivers are strongly encouraged to read this report and discuss with their child how they are performing to date. The next Engagement Report will be published on Tuesday 9 April.

Phone +64 6 356 4817
COMING UP …

AWATAPU COLLEGE PRESENTS

SEQUINNED
SUITS AND PLATFORM
BOOTS

02-04 MAY 2019 | TICKETS $10 | AWATAPU SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
PURCHASE TICKETS AT SCHOOL OFFICE | LIMITED DOOR SALES AVAILABLE
WRITTEN BY MARK WHEELLER & DIRECTED BY JANE BENNETT

www.awatapu.school.nz
OUTWARD BOUND

Outward Bound New Zealand is a non-profit organisation offering outdoor experiential learning courses to New Zealanders young and old. Based in Anakiwa in the Marlborough Sounds, Outward Bound are offering two courses during the April school holidays:

▪ **School Leaders Course** is offered once a year to current school leaders aged 16-18 years. The course is aimed at building teen resilience in a fun and healthy environment and connecting young leaders across the country. Places are limited and potential students need to provide evidence of their leadership position.

▪ **Leaps & Bounds Course** is the ultimate shared adventure for parents/caregivers and their teen (13-15 years). The 8 day course provides a challenging but supportive environment for teens and their parents to develop and strengthen their relationship without any of the usual digital distractions.

For more information, please visit the Outward Bound website [www.outwardbound.co.nz](http://www.outwardbound.co.nz)

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TOMORROW’S SCHOOLS REVIEW


Consultation meetings are now being held on the report. These meetings are an opportunity to ask questions and understand more about the proposals the taskforce have made. The consultation meetings are open to all members of the public, including school staff, parents/caregivers, students and the wider community. The Palmerston North public meeting will be held on **Wednesday 27 March from 7-9pm** at the Awapuni Function Centre.

For other ways in which you can have your say, please visit [www.conversation.education.govt.nz/observations/tomorrows-schools-review/](http://www.conversation.education.govt.nz/observations/tomorrows-schools-review/)

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS 2019

This year marks an election year for the Board of Trustees. You can nominate another person to stand as a candidate, or you can nominate yourself. Being a Board member is an important role in schools as Trustees have an oversight of the school in its entirety (i.e. finance, property, and governance), not just one area of the school. Being on a Board does not mean you are responsible for the day to day management of the school.

Nominations open on Friday 10 May 2019. The nominations will close at noon on Friday 24 May 2019 with voting closing at noon on Friday 7 June 2019.

The new Board will take office on Friday 14 June 2019. This means the meeting on 12 June 2019 will be the last for the outgoing Board and is an opportunity for all potential Trustees to come and observe a Board in operation.

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WHĀNAU KONNECT DAY

Whānau residing in the South Western suburbs or those attending schools in the South Western suburbs (those with a 4412 postcode), are invited to attend the Whānau Konnect Day on Sunday 24 March at the Lido.

**Entry:** Gold coin donation or $5 for whanau of up to 6

Bring your ticket or proof of 4412 postcode

This is one of many opportunities that will drop out of the Ora Konnect initiative, and we will be sure to keep you in the loop with any other events or activities that would be of benefit to your whānau.
COMING UP

Week 8 (18 - 24 March)
Fri 22   Assembly

Week 9 (25 - 31 March)
Tue 26   Year 11 Geography Trip to Mt Bruce
Fri 29   Year 11 History Trip to Waiouru

Week 10 (1 - 7 April)
Thu 4    Year 12 RYDA Course - CET Arena
Fri 5    Gateway Health & Safety Course
Sat 6/Sun 7 North Island Secondary School Athletics

Week 11 (8-12 April)
Mon 8    Senior Drama Showcase 7pm
Tue 9    Summer Sport Photos
         Engagement Reports Published
Fri 12   Assembly
         Last Day of Term One

Week 1 (29 April - 5 May)
Mon 29   First Day of Term Two
Thu 2    School Production 7pm
Fri 3    Assembly
         School Production 7pm
Sat 4    School Production 7pm

Week 2 (6 – 12 May)
Tue 7    Year 9 & 10 Attitude Presentations
         School Cross Country
Wed 8    Board of Trustees Meeting 5.30pm
Fri 10   BOT Election Nominations Open
Sat 11   North Island Secondary School Swimming

AWATAPU COLLEGE

HOMESTAY

We are looking for caring and welcoming homestay families for our international students

Being a homestay family is a rewarding experience for NZ families. It is a great chance for the entire family to discover new cultures and languages and provide international students with a wonderful ‘KIWI’ experience.

We have several opportunities every year for families to host, short term (from 7 days to 10 weeks) or long term (3+ months).

When you choose to host with Awatapu College you receive 24 hour support for both you and your international student. You receive a weekly payment of $250, paid fortnightly in advance.

Our staff have over 20 years’ experience working with homestay families and students and are ready to help you and your family welcome an international student into your home.

For more information please contact:

AWATAPU COLLEGE
International Department
P: 356 4817 ext 8883
E: internationaloffice@awatapu.school.nz
W: www.awatapu.school.nz
F: Awatapu College International

TERM DATES 2019
Term One: 30 January to 12 April
Term Two: 29 April to 5 July
Term Three: 22 July to 27 September
Term Four: 14 October to 6 November (Seniors)
           14 October to 5 December (Juniors)